

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated May 13, 2004 are respectfully requested. The applicant petitions the Commissioner for a 1-month extension of time: a separate petition accompanies this amendment.

I. Amendments

Following entry of the above amendments, claims 52, 53 and 60-63 are pending in this case. Claims 40-51 and 54-59 have been canceled. New claims 60-63 have been added. New claims 60-63 correspond to previous claims 44 and 47-49 rewritten in independent form, as suggested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Applicants appreciate that the Examiner indicated claims 52 and 53 allowable and claims 44 and 47-49 allowable in independent form, which Applicants are presenting with new claims 60-63.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 40-43, 45, 46, 50, 51 and 54-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). These claims have been canceled with entry of this amendment and the rejection is therefore moot. New claims 60-63 correspond to previously pending claims 44 and 47-49 rewritten in independent form, as suggested by the Examiner, and are therefore in condition for immediate allowance.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 52-53 and 60-63 are in condition for immediate allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

The undersigned invites the Examiner to call (650) 838-4382 with any questions or comments. The Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-2207 as needed for entry and consideration of this Amendment and to maintain pendency of this application needed for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,
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